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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/511,335	05/05/2005	Erich Reitingner	8074-25 (P18005 SB/gra)	2375
22150	7590	06/10/2010	EXAMINER	
F. CHAU & ASSOCIATES, LLC 130 WOODBURY ROAD WOODBURY, NY 11797			GRAVINI, STEPHEN MICHAEL	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3743	
			NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			06/10/2010	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/511,335	Applicant(s) REITINGER, ERICH	
	Examiner Stephen M. Gravini	Art Unit 3743	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 April 2010.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-12,14-19 and 21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 9-12,14-19 and 21 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) 9-12,14-19 and 21 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 May 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 1, 3-8, and 22-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tarui et al. (US 5,657,553) in view of de Puerto et al. (EP 0 511 928). The claims are reasonably and broadly construed, in light of the accompanying specification, as being disclosed by Tarui as comprising:

preparing a space **10** which is essentially enclosed by a container and has a wafer/hybrid chuck which is located therein and has the purpose of holding a semiconductor wafer and/or hybrid; and

pre-cooling a dry fluid in a heat-exchanger **28** outside the space;

conducting the pre-cooled fluid from the heat exchanger into the wafer/hybrid chuck via a first line **22**, and then through the wafer/hybrid chuck to cool the wafer/hybrid chuck;

conducting at least a portion of the fluid having left the wafer/hybrid holding [device? assuming the recitation "device" was intended to be also claimed] to the heat exchanger via a second line **21**;

heating the portion, by using the portion for the pre-cooling of the fluid in the heat exchanger (column 4 line 66 through column 5 line 11); or alternatively:

wherein at least a portion of the fluid having left the wafer/hybrid chuck is used to condition the atmosphere within the space (figure 1);

wherein the heated portion is conducted from the heat exchanger into the space via a third line **17b**, before being allowed to flow out within the space to condition the atmosphere in the space. Tarui also discloses the claimed portion is firstly heat-treated and then allowed to flow out within the space (figure 1), characterized in that the portion is heat-treated outside the space and then fed back to the space (column 4), characterized in that the portion is allowed to flow out within the space directly after it leaves the wafer/hybrid chuck (figure 2). Tarui discloses the claimed invention, except for the claimed fluid being conducted through a chuck. del Puerto, another method of conditioning a semiconductor, discloses that feature on the face of the reference. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to combine the teachings of Tarui, with the heat transfer features of del Puerto for the purpose of maximizing energy usage in wafer semiconductor process methods.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 3-9 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground of rejection.

Conclusion

Other prior art references cited with this action disclose one or more features of the claimed invention, but are not relied upon in rejecting the claims.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen Gravini whose telephone number is 571 272 4875. The examiner can normally be reached on normal weekday business hours (east coast time).

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kenneth B. Rinehart can be reached on 571 272 4881. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Stephen Gravini/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3743